LACE & MALE PARTY TANKS HOW MAY A

A Dinner at Sherry's.

The way to the masculine heart is through the stomach, and "harmony linners" are an old and excellent remedy Mayor McClellan to-morrow night is expected to bring together a distingished collection of Democrats and Democratic candidates, active, passive ind neuter. The young Mayor has not had time to accumulate enemies, and almost every Democrat wishes him well. The Hon. DAVID BENNETT HILL, a practised giver of eirenical feasts, will, it is hoped, find his heart grow fonder of the Hon. EDWARD MURPHY, the Hon. SMITH M. WEED and the Hon. D. CADY HERRICK as he sees them at that table. The Hon. HUGH MCLAUGHLIN will establish a modus edendi with the Hon. CHARLES F. MURPHY. The Hon. BOURKE COCKRAN, that chartered libertine of politics, will range himself and settle, the religious orders hitherto authorized down. The sword will be beaten into to teach, from educational functions the dinner fork and peace smile upon within the French Republic. There are the fair occasion.

Seldom have more eminent legs put themselves under the festive board. There is Mr. CLEVELAND, the greatest and most popular of living Democrats, even if he has driven Col. HENRY WAT-TERSON into neurasthenia. There is the Hon. RICHARD OLNEY, wearing modestly the honors of his budding boom. There is Judge PARKEB, and there is the Hon. GEORGE GRAY of Delaware. The Hon. ARTHUR PUE GORMAN has felt called upon to detain himself in Washington on account of the beginning of the debate on the Panama treaty.

The Hon. DAVID A. DE ARMOND of Missouri, long an able representative of the Bryan policies, comes and is welcome to what is no longer "the enemy's country." And Governor GARVIN of Rhode Island is from the same side of the Democratic house and equally sure of a hearty reception. Mr. BRYAN is abroad, full of peace and delightful reminiscences. He would be cheered at that board if he were present. The Jacksonian Club of his own State has just set the example. It had a dinner, last week, where Bryanite and anti-Bryanite foregathered in the best of tempers and agreed to bicker no more.

There is to be nothing unduly personal or partisan about this greeting to the Mayor. The Democratic Judges of the Supreme Court have accepted invitations. The spirit of Democratic conciliation and reunion is spreading, and any meeting of Democrats is pretty sure to make for good feeling and convenient forgetting.

Of course, nobody thinks of laving the cloth for a Republican love feast. The Republican brethren of New York dwell together in unity, one grand, sweet song.

The New Pope's Attitude Toward Italy and France.

Is it probable that the position taken by LEO XIII. toward the Italian monarchy on the one hand and the French Republic on the other will be modified by the new Pontiff to any important extent during the coming twelvemonth?

Catholic associations comprised 1,800 delegates from all parts of Italy, and strikingly attested the success of the efforts to secure concerted and effective action on the part of faithful adherents of the Papacy. The principal purpose of the congress was to bring about greater centralization, so as to convert the whole body of associations into a highly organized machine obedient to a single will. To that end a resolution was proposed investing the president with authority to dissolve any sub-committee which failed to comply with directions emanating from above. There was some opposition offered by the old Reactionary party, which was represented at Bologna, but which of late years has dwindled into comparative by a combination of the Moderates, of the Young Catholic party, and of the socalled Christian Democrats, and the resolution was adopted with a close appurpose having been attained, the Catholic associations will presently be welded into a compact organization, constituting a formidable part of the electorate and Pope give the word. Ostensibly, indeed, its aims are non-political, because faithful Catholics cannot disobey the injunction issued by PIUS IX., and reaffirmed intellect. by his successor, not to participate in the Italian Parliamentary elections. Is il at injunction likely to be removed? There is no doubt that the new Pope

Venice, he looked with regret on the antagonism which for more than three decades has existed between the Papacy and the civil power in Italy. For some time, therefore, after his elevation to the pontificate reports were current that he was disposed to accept a species of modus vivendi which, on the one hand, would satisfy the present rulers of the Peninsula, and, on the other hand, assure the desired freedom of action to the Church. He has since made it clear, however, that in his judgment no accommodation is practicable unless political independence and a certain amount of territory are conceded to the Papecy. Italian anti-Catholics may say that the Pope is politically independent to-day, because he exercises the privileges of a sovereign by sending and receiving ambassadors. Prus. X., however, in his allocution to to perform his sacred functions, must | SUN to the disputants from now to the | ville, Buncombe Junction and East Worth | land a ley mountains.

not only be, but appear to be, free and end of time. That is, it isn't worth independent. He must be free that he may exercise his spiritual authority without being subject to external pressure; and he must appear to be free lest the possibility of such pressure should render his acts open to question on the part of the faithful, as not proceeding solely from his own initiative. It certainly is hard to see how these conditions can be fulfilled unless full sovereignty over a certain amount of territory is conceded to the Pope. It remains to be seen whether the old project of granting to the Papacy the Leonine City, together with a ribbon of fand running along the same side of the Tiber and connecting that city with the sea, will be revived, and whether it will be acceptable to both parties. Meanwhile, the declaration made on Nov. 9 must be held to prove that PIUS X. has no present intention of recalling the mandate Non expedit, by which PIUS IX, proclaimed for political lesions. The dinner to to Catholics the inexpediency of recognizing the Italian Government by taking part in its Parliamentary elections.

Neither by the Pope himself nor by Cardinal MERRY DEL VAL, the new Papal Secretary of State, has any distinct intimation been given of a change in the policy of the Vatican toward France. Apparently, the inclination of French Catholics to oppose the Republican régime is still discouraged by the head of the Church, notwithstanding the expulsion of the so-called "unauthorized' religious orders from French territory. It remains to be seen whether the same tolerant attitude will be maintained should Premier COMBES succeed in carrying out his determination to exclude even those who think that, in view of the exasperation of Catholics throughout the world at the treatment of religious orders in France, some act of retaliation may be expected from the Vatican.

There are others who believe that PIUS X., like his predecessor, will not swerve from the policy of magnanimity and resignation so long as the French Radicals shall permit the Concordat to stand. It is likely that a definite decision will have been formed upon this point before the new year is ended.

The Philosophy of William McAdoo.

A good maxim ought to be tight enough in its joints to hold water. Such is not the case with the apothegmatic remark which our neighbor the World has recently attributed to Police Commissioner McADOO:

"The best secret of success is always doing the one thing that seems at that time to be the righ thing to do."

This is of little use to those who need the help of maxims. To a fool, for example, the thing that seems the right thing to do at a given time is often, if not always, the wrong thing to do at that time. Therefore, the more faithfully he bridge it might add to them. follows the McAdoo maxim the more surely he will go to smash, instead of to success.

Tinkering a leaky maxim is not an attractive job, but no doubt the subjoined version will seem at first sight to be an improvement: "The best secret of success is always doing the

one thing that is at that time the right thing to do."

secret about it. The idea is common property to the degree of being platimoment he is bound to succeed. Let us try again: "The best secret of success is always knowing

the one thing that is at that time the right thing

And that is indeed a secret!

We are of the opinion that Police Commissioner McADOO's utterances on the philosophy of success have been mutilated, perverted or otherwise misreported by the World.

The Problem of Existence.

"A young student, not long out of college," sends us a well-reasoned essay, of which, he says, "the only logical conclusion is that there is a GoD, the Creator of all things, Himself transcending and governing all, and that through our spiritual natures we are related to this Supreme Being." "All else," he proceeds, "is open to doubt and discussion; and divergence of thought as to it is unavoidable, but ground roads will be required. so long as each thinks honestly and lives up to his views there is no harm done."

The steps by which our young friend reaches this conclusion are many and his essay is long. Long or short, it insignificance. It was easily overborne would not be worth while for us to print it. His argument, convincing as it is to himself, would not produce any general conviction, but would give rise to a controversy which, as we know proach to unanimity. The centralizing from experience, would be long and bitter. Both his premises and his conclusions would be denied. They have been rejected for hundreds of years and never more decidedly, both by religious ready to act at the ballot-box should the faith and religious infidelity, than now. The problem he would solve, and which he thinks he has solved, is really beyond the possibility of solution by the human

Modern science does not undertake to go to ultimate conclusions. It goes only so far as it can demonstrate facts on which, perhaps, to found hypothesis. is a patriot, and that, as Patriarch of It has nothing to do with the imaginary, and it is the antithesis of dogma, it is

knowing, not believing. The argument of our young friend therefore, creditable as it is to him as a metaphysical construction, is not pertineat to the conflict between religion and science which he would settle. For example, he assumes a personal Gop. with "self-knowledge and self-determination." Science knows no such Being. though it does not undertake to deny His existence. Even the "new theology" so fashionable now leaves Him without the attribute of personality, as also it leaves Christianity without any definite' supernatural basis.

The "unavoidable divergence of thought" of which our young friend necticut Magazine of "The Nomenclature speaks is a radical and essential differ- of Connecticut Towns." Some ironic ence that makes impossible any argu- genius seems to have presided over the ment between the two sides. "It is so," the consistory of Nov. 9, pointed out that | "it is not so," is all it could come to, even | Teledo, Salamanca, Troy, Syracuse turn the head of the Church, in order properly | if we gave up the whole space of THE | up their noses at their neighbors of Potts-

pursuing.

Mr. GOLDWIN SMITH, in a very able letter we print to-day, takes the ground that even if the edifice of dogmatic Christianity, or its dogmatic connection with a supernatural source, is destroyed, " the essence of Christianity as it came from the lips of the author" remains unimpaired, for that essence is "belief in the fatherhood of GoD and the brotherhood of man." But are not both denied and rejected by the science of the present? Mr. GOLDWIN SMITH himself seems to imply that he rejects the first, for he says that "belief in GOD may have been renounced," yet there remains "belief in the brotherhood of man." Is not "COMTE'S great Being of Humanity," he asks, "CHRIST'S brotherhood of man under another name"? To Christian faith is not that very comparison the extreme of infidelity, even blasphemy? Does it not reduce JESUS to the level of a modern philosopher, and Christianity to an "ethical speculation, one of a number of the same"? Moreover, when he speaks of precepts of Jesus as "visionary," of Oriental exaggeration, and as the expressions of a teacher "untrained to the exact use of language," does he not substantially admit our point by taking from their utterer the attribute of Divinity, and, consequently, from his philosophy the distinction of final authority?

Mr. GOLDWIN SMITH'S letter will be provocative of much thought, doubtless; but even he, the profound student in an honored age, cannot offer any more satisfactory solution of the great problem than does our young friend just out of college. When supernaturalism dependent on dogma is removed from Christianity there remains a field for philosophic discussion and speculation open to every phase of thought, and into which all may enter for a race which can have no goal.

The Factor of Safety.

Our correspondent of the other day who opposed the frequent demand for more heat in the city cars with an appeal for more fresh air expressed a feeling which is in many healthy travellers by lines of interurban transit. At best, the discomforts because of cold cars are of trifling consequence as compared with those endured because of the congestion of travel on those lines.

When the new East River bridge is supplied with feeders in the way of connecting transit lines, constructed after the newest and best models and provided with electric motors, the jam on the old Brooklyn Bridge which is now so disgraceful and so dangerous may be relieved in very considerable part, for a time at least. That congestion has increased steadily and greatly until now at the hours of the chief travel it invites panic and disaster of appalling magnitude. More heat in the cars is a small matter; instead of lessening the inconvenience and danger in crossing the

On Friday the new Mayor headed a party of municipal officials and others in a first ride through the underground railway from the City Hall to Harlem. It was a successful trip, though probably spring will have come before the road is completed for travel generally Even when the subway is in full operation, however, it will not provide enough the congestion of travel at the hours, unless temporarily. This town tudinous. Everybody knows that if he has increased at least half a million in always does the right thing at the right | population since the digging of the subway was begun about four years agoprobably more; and before the road is (airly in operation its additional capacity is likely to be taxed to its utmost by the increase in the demand for interurban transportation.

That increase, represented by the growth in population during those four years, is equal to nearly two-thirds of the whole population of New York as it was in 1870 when the first elevated steam railroad was opened through Ninth avenue. Between 1890 and 1900 the number of inhabitants of New York increased by 3.7 per cent, annually, and the percentage of growth since the census was taken has been even greater. As experience has shown, it increases with every considerable addition to the facilities for transportation; and soon, therefore, the new subway will be congested by travel, and more and more under-

Moreover, the use of electricity as a motor introduces new problems as to written us, may not be solved before serious disasters have occurred.

No questions are of greater gravity than those concerning interurban transit at this period of extraordinary growth of the already populous towns. They relate, as the painful experience on the old Brooklyn Bridge demonstrates, not merely to methods of locomotion, but also to methods of handling the increasing crowds invited by the large means of transportation. At present the loading and unloading of the cars are almost primitive in their inefficiency. They have not kept pace with the general development of the system of transportation, and unless they are improved frightful disasters may demonstrate their backwardness

A correspondent of the Times recom mends, as a remedy against cold, that "only one door of a car be opened for the entrance and exit of passengers. This in face of the fact that larger and better facilities for loading and unloading are imperatively required for sheer safety! When travel in the subway begins to be congested, what terrible danger of panic below ground there will be if such facilities are not provided and the

wisest and strictest discipline maintained. The main factor to be considered by the public and by all managers of railways and of all places where great congregations of people are inevitable is the problem of safety for human life.

Mr. JOEL N. ENQ writes in the Condistribution of town names. Paris,

and West Squashton; and here and there some stern Indian name discharges mangled consonants and vowels in unpronounceable medley. The Connecticut system is the general American system. The early colonists named settlements from places from which they came, or which were familiar for one reason or another. Most of the carlier emigration to New England being from old England, many of the towns took names which recalled and perpetuated English associations. Oxford, Canterbury, Derby, Hartford, which represents the pronunciation of the English Hertford; Hampton, Windsor, Redding, a phonetic spelling of Reading, which is

spelled conservatively in Massachusetts and elsewhere. The favorite reading of the Puritans has left its monuments on the map in such Hebrew names as Bethany, Bozrah, Canaan, Goshen, Lebanon, Salem. Popular heroes are commemorated in Washington, Orange, Chatham, Cromwell, Putnam, Franklin, Madison, Seymour, Sherman. JOHN HAMPDEN is spelled as he is pronounced in Hamden. The thirst for reformed orthography did not prevail among the men who named Willington after the English town Wellington. Simsbury is curiously called after SIMON or "SIM" WOLCOTT, and will have a genial look to us henceforth. Hadlyme is a marriage of Haddam and Lyme. Our wise and pious ancestors in parts of the Nutmeg State were not always happy in the choice of the names of their towns or their children.

We come with pleasure to the Indian names, a pleasure not diminished by 'Quonoktacut,' 'a river whose water is 'land on the longtidal river.' " Who can't help liking Cheesechankamuck, the froggy Indian name of a branch of the Farmington River; Cocoosing, "where chorus?1; Hockanum, which means 'hookshaped" and suggests your "uncle"? Higganum we have ever loved, and it surely be some consecrating power. s no surprise to find that it has been nconceivably corrupted from Tomheganompakut, which says "at the tomahawk rock." Now the bullfrog is on the bank again:

"Paheupog, from Papke-paug, 'pure water from Papke-paug, 'pure water pond'; Pequabuck, clear or open pond'; Pequannock, 'land naturally clear and open'; Pochaug, 'where they divide in two': Pomperaug, 'place of offering': Pontoosuc, 'falls on the brook'; Poquetanuck, 'land open or 'place at the end of the hill': Quinnebaug, 'long

way with your Greek: Indian's the only Have the "Moodus noises" shut up?

Naubuc, Nepaug, Noank, Natcharig-

The trouble here is that there is no facilities for transportation to relieve they speak, some mental or moral dedirectly depends on it there can be no siring to settle advantage they speak, some mental or moral dedirectly depends on it there can be no siring to settle the island. power of none other than themselves to may sometimes be found looking back prove. Take, for example, this sentence, from a statement made to the public by the occupant of a high official position:

How lacking in wit, in intelligence, and destiny, however unwelcome and low

n training, in manners, in good morals | ering in itself, is better than ignorance and s he who must confess his inability to infinitely better than falsehood. Let scideny a statement except in vile or profane or filthy words!

The man to make that confession is the Governor of the greatest State in the American Union.

A letter in THE SUN recently, from a Roman Catholic clergyman, was resented by a clergyman of the Episcopal Church, on the ground that it contained an offensive assumption that the Anglican orders of the ministry are invalid in an ecclesiastical ently it will hardly conduce to morality sense. Now we receive from another Roman Catholic priest an argument that the original assertion was justified. It is a controversy which has lasted already for as yet to have been clearly brought under hundreds of years and may last for hundreds of years to come. For Roman Catholics, as is well known, it is decided against the Anglican orders by Papal authority; safety, which, expert electricians have but the Anglicans having refused to accept this decision the issue remains unchanged so far as they are concerned. It is true that now the Rev. Dr. Briggs, who went over from the Presbyterian to the Episcopal Church, declares his agreement with the decision of Pope Leo XIII. that the Anglican ordinations are invalid, "in the sense that Episcopalians consider them." Next to the Roman Catholic Church, however, the strongest religious communion in New York is the Episcopal, and that it holds that place would seem to be evidence that the 88,263 Episcopalian communicants the Federation of Churches enumerates are either satisfied with the validity of the orders of their clergy or are indifferent to the subject, and that, accordingly, they are not open to any change of conviction as to it At any rate, we cannot allow the controversy to be prolonged further in THE SUN.

The Agninaldo Boom.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I have been appressed by your editorial concerning the ap commissioners to the St. Louis world's fair. The appointment is desirable, as you suggest, because it would please the natives and sadden the antiimps. Yet the appointment is desirable on other ounds; he could stand the climate PROCTOR, Vt., Dec. 31. GEORGE W. TIMMS.

Dialogues of the Great Dead

Apelles was painting his famous portrain Doesn't be look as If he might step from the canvas?" asked the master of the brush 'Yes," replied his rival, "I should think he would

Subsequent opinion, however, proved this a case of sour grapes. Æsculapius was giving a lecture "Finally," said the Father of Medicine, "write your prescriptions in Latin, and your bills in good plain English.

But," asked the students, "where does our na tive tongue come in?" "That's bust it," he answered, "the patient's condition is usually Greek to you." Cheered by this exposition, they went forth to

The Tune.

Knicker-Somebody calls architecture "frozen | Long life to the fish; Bocker-Well, I guess our flat must be Green

DOES CHRISTIANITY FALL WITH

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It ems to be assumed in some quarters that if ecclesiastical dogma departs nothing of Christianity will be left us. The edifice of ecclesiastical dogma is built on belief in the Incarnation and Atonement, which again depends on belief in the Fall of Man. ence has apparently disproved the Fall of Man, and proved that man, instead of falling, rose, by evolution, from lower organizations. The inference seems irresistible and fatal to degmatic Christianity. But does this reduce Christianity to an ethical speculation, one of a number of the same kind?

The essence of Christishity as it came from the lips of the author, seems to be belief in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. Trace the practical effect of this belief through the centuries, disengaging it as well as you can from ecclesiastical superfetations, from the effects of fellowship with evil powers of the world, from the crimes of the Papacy, and from the fanaticism of sects. Does it not appear wherever it has prevailed, under whatever form and in whatever circumstances, in all nations and in all states of life, to have produced in those who strove to live up to it excellence and beneficence of character, with spiritual happiness and inward assurance that it would be well for them in the sum of things? In that case may not Christianity fairly present itself as something more than an ethical speculation? May it not claim to rank in some degree as a right solution of the problem of humanity and a practical experiment which has not failed?

It is said that in this struggle of righteous ness and mercy against the powers of injustice and violence suddenly unchained, those who have borne themselves best upon the side of that which Christians claim as the uncertainties of philology. Mr. Christian principle, have in many cases ENO tells us that "Connecticut" is "from | not been Christians. This is true, and it is true also that some Christian Churches have driven in waves by tides onward' or taken that which seems to be ethically the anti-Christian side. But have these men, in discarding Christian profession, discarded belief in that which is the essence of Christianity? Have they renounced belief in the brotherhood of man? May it owls are"; Cowantacuck another frog- not be said that Comte's great Being of chant [why do the Yalensiams go to Humanity is Christ's brotherhood of man ARISTOPHANES for their batrachian under another name? Belief in God may have been renounced, yet to consecrate belief in a brotherhood of man there must As an indication that Christianity cannot

stand as a philosophy of the conduct of life without the support of dogma, you cite the extreme passages in the Gospel against carefulness for riches and the things of this world generally, observing that "so far from there being practical unanimity in ond'; Pattaquonk, 'round place'; Pauquepaug, accepting this philosophy of the conduct of life, there is practically unanimity in repudiating it." Beyond doubt the passages are in expression visionary. They are Oriental. They are the language, as those who have rejected supernaturalism broken up': Poquonoc, 'cleared land'; Quidnic, believe, of a peasant reformer who spoke to the heart rather than to the philosophic mind, who had been bred in no school of philosophy and was untrained to the exact use of language. Beyond doubt their visonary character has told against their practical effect. But, after all, the gist of them is "keep your heart above wealth Moodus comes from "machamoodus," and devotion to its increase." Has not this

> wistfully to the restfulness of the days before the electric telegraph, the ocean greyhound and the automobile. Nor, if it is the effect of scientific discovery on our religious faith that is meant, can there be any doubt that knowledge of our nature ence prove that man is merely a physical development of the ape or earthworm, and that with his present life all ends; we will accept the proof, though there may be little comfort in the materialist's exhortation to make the best of this life and look forward with complacency to our eternal sleep, the life perhaps being that of a galleyslave, while eternal sleep is a pleasant name for annihilation. But the conviction cannot be said to enhance the dignity or conduce to the happiness of man; apparpersonal or social. Before accepting it we crave a full examination of all the phenomena, including those which do not seem the domain of physical science. Physical science itself is still advancing, and there may be Darwins after Darwin. Nor, we must be permitted to say, is the materialist more proof than the spiritualist against natural bias. When a materialist, in face apparently of his own consciousness and universal experience, denies the existence of human volition, we cannot help thinking that there is ground for reconsideration perhaps even of other portions

Bay State Speculations.

Ambassador Choate's place is the Government. The suggestion came from Boston that Senator lodge may wish to become Ambassador to St. James if the present occupant resigns his post when Secretary Hay leaves the Cabinet. The present illness of the Sceretary of State makes it quite probable that a vacancy will occur immediately in the Cabluet by resignation. A change of climate s been advised Mr. Hay.

necessor in the United States Senate would be Mr. Crane, Mr. Long, Mr. Moody or Mr. Bates. At least one of these men would be satisfactory, we believe, to the people of the State. Yet we believe would be better for the interests of Massachusetts to have Senator Lodge remain in his present

The Angler's Toast. When men meet to drink to those they love most, anglers fill up their cups for a toast. To proud dame or lass Who from gentle sport will tempt you to stray, But let your cups clink, Ye anglers, and drint:

position.

health to the tish. To the blages: fish, Tife fish that got away: You hared him by craft; he fought you In fair fight or foul, he splintered your rods.

But, valiant and strong, he won every fray Then fill to the brim And drink deep to him A toast to the fish. To the biggest fish, The fish that got away!

Barbed weapon of sieel

What others you've killed with cunning and skill You've never caught him and never you will. in brook, lake or sea

Ye anglers, stand up and due homage pay Let every glass ring A toast to the King-The fish that got away

NORMAN JEFFRIES.

THE ISLE OF PINES.

Dr. Wood's Promises and the Four Hundred Americans Resident There. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN -Sir: The American residents of the Isle of Pines wil

manimously thank you for your editorial on the Isle of Pines treaty. It will cal attention to the injustice which will come to 400 American citizens who are actually re siding on the Isle of Pines, should the treat; negotiated, and now before the Senate of the nited States, become effectual.

Your criticism of Gen. Wood's methods in dealing with the Isle of Pincs and the American citizens residing thereon might have been made very much longer and severer senting the American residents that he would would be provided for the island pendins the settlement of title under the Plattamend ment. He said that he could not do other than this for the reason that, as he understoo it, the Platt amendment required the island to be omitted from the proposed constitutional boundaries of Cuba, which would make, it necessary for the United States Government to provide a government for the island until it was decided whether the island was to remain United States territory or be relinquished to Cuba. This was a reasonable view and was strictly in accord with the opinion and advice of the law officer o be War Department.

Whatever may be said about the Isle of Pines being an integral part of Cuba, the

fact remains that the United States Government considered that under the terms of the Treaty of Paris she possessed territorial rights over the island. This is proved by the position taken by the War Department in its letter to Mr. Bridges in May, 1899, in which it was declared that the island was ceded to the United States by Spain and was, therefore. United States territory. The position taken by the War Department was upheld by the action of Congress, expressed in Article VI. of the Platt amendment, which required that the Isle of Pines should be omitted from the proposed constitutional boundaries of Cuba. The Secretary of War must have held the same opinion when Cuba was turned over by Gen. Wood to the Cuban Government. The Secretary directed that the "present Government" should be continued on the Isle of Pines as a de facto Government. The "present Government" referred to by the Secretary was the Government fact remains that the United States Government. The "present Government" referred to by the Secretary was the Government which had been instituted and maintained on the island by the United States. Had this on the island by the United States. Had this order been carried out, the advice of the law officer of the War Department would have been followed, and the letter and spirit of the Platt amendment would have been obeyed. As it was, both the law officer and Congress were disregarded and the administration of government on the Isle of Pines was allowed to drift into the hands of the Cuban Government. Congress had by positive language omitted the Isle of Pines from the constitutional boundaries of Cuba, yet, that order was disregarded and disobeyed by those who should have felt that it was their duty to enforce it. Why Congress has permitted this disregard and disobedience to its mandates remains to be explained. It would be a pertinent inquiry on the part of Congress to call upon the Secretary of War and the Secretary of State to explain why the Platt amendment was thus disregarded and disobeyed.

disobeyed.

The treaty negotiated by Minister Squiers proposes to exchange the Isle of Pines as part consideration for coaling and naval stations on the island of Cuba. This propo-sition on the part of the United States is successful of the United States is tantamount to a claim that the United States owns the Isle of Pines. Otherwise, how could the United States, with due regard for truth and honesty, offer to trade it off? What would be thought of an individual who should would be thought of an individual who should offer to sell or exchange a tract of land in which he had no equitable interest, or to which he had no title? Would he not be considered a rascal? The court records will snow that many a man has been sent to the penitentiary for being guilty of selling and trading off property that did not belong to him. Assuredly the United States has no right superior to that of an individual in transactions of this kind.

The American citizens who have located on the Isle of Pines emigrated from the United States under the assurance of the War Depart-ment that that island was a part of United Moodus comes from "machamoodus," and devotion to its increase." Has not this been practised, without detriment to industry, by men even in the mart or on the Stock Exchange, and have they not found that self-approval and moral happiness were the invariable result?

Some men's misfortune is to betray themselves and display their faults and inefficiencies far more completely and convincingly than their most determined opponents could. Each time they speak, some mental or moral determined opponents could. Each time they speak, some mental or moral dedirectly depends on it there can be no determined of the salar that that the stand and under the greater assurance of Congress that the island under the island some of Congress that the island should be omitted from the boundaries of Cuba. Many of them were not only influenced by the letter of the War Department, above referred to, but by a pamphet entitled "The Isle of Pines." issued from the Insular Bureau of that Department under the direction of the Secretary of War, in which the advantages in the island were set forth with elaboration and attractive pamphet entitled "The Isle of Pines." issued from the Insular Bureau of the War Department, above referred to, but by a pamphet entitled "The Isle of Pines." issued from the Insular Bureau of the War Department, above referred to, but by a pamphet entitled "The Isle of Pines." issued from the Insular Bureau of War, in which the advantages in the island were set forth with elaboration and attractive pamphet entitled "The Isle of Pines." issued from the Insular Bureau of the War Department, above referred to, but by a pamphet entitled "The Isle of Pines." issued from the Insular Bureau of the War Department, above referred to, but by a pamphet entitled "The Isle of Pines." issued from the Insular Bureau of the War Department, above referred to, but by a pamphet entitled "The Isle of Pines." issued from the Insular Bureau of the War Department, above referred to, but by a pamphet entitled "The Isle of Pines." issued from States territory, and under the greater assur In view of all this it would seem inevitable

that the Congress would insist upon its rights and enforce its order that the Isle of Pines should be omitted from the boundaries of Cuba should be omitted from the boundaries of Cuba by compelling the State Department to exer-cise its rightful functions in providing at once a government for the island, pending the settlement provided for in the Platt amend-ment. This the State Department should have done at the very moment that the War Department ceased to administer govern-ment on the island. In the event, however, that it shall be deemed best by Congress to turn the island over to Cuba, the Congress should make provision, so far as it shall be should make provision, so far as it shall be possible, for the righting of the wrong in-flieted upon innocent American citizens who have located on the Isle of Pines and invested have located on the Isle of Pines and invested all of their means there with a view to making permanent homes. The United States Government is bound, by every consideration of right and honor, to protect these people who are about to be forced into expatriation by a treaty which is the offspring of ignorance and indifference.

The American citizens on the Isle of Pines appeal to The Sun to help defeat this treaty, or if this cannot be done to secure for them their rights so far as is possible. J. H. L. CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 28.

Pensions.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: You emark in an editorial of Dec. 28 that "pobody can say truly that the United States is not generous to the men who fight for it." I wish THE SUN, which shines for all, would kindly differentiate between the class draw pensions from the United States Gov-

A soldier that served four years of actual service without the loss of a single day, either for wounds or from sickness, and has an honorable discharge, but happens to be entirely free from any disability that can properly be charged to the years of army service, but through no fault of his own becomes entirely helpiess the very day that he receives his discharge from the army, can only obtain in the regular way \$12 per month, while another who served only ninety days, even if that whole time was spent in camp, and has been well and in full bodily health until the present time, if suddenly disabled through ro fault of his own by reason of vicious habits—is entitled to the same pension as No. 1.

Again, a widow of one like No. 1 can only receive 38 per month, while the widow of No. A soldier that served four years of actual

eceive 38 per month, while the widow of No. is allowed the same. The Southern General, ourgstreet, fought four years against the nited States. I have rever learned that his Longstreet, fought four years against the United States. I have never learned that his Mexican service disability over very seriously interfered with his vizor and physical ability to endure the nardships consequent upon his active operations in Virginia and east Tennessee or other localities where he commanded. His general military ability was certainly undisputed, as some of the Union Generals can attest. But the 'Inited States Government has granted him a pension equal to that of No. 1, mentioned above.

Planse leave out the words "fight for" in your comments the next time and substitute others that express the real facts. THE Sux knows, but said to say, there are "spots" on even the New York luminary that ought not to be allowed to grow so as to become too large for 'rentment, ' mean successful treatment the other hind is teo disagreeable to discuss.

You might also add that the pensions are made up from the army and navy subjects, so that for the sake of comparison the ordinary annual expenses of the army and any subjects. Army and navy. \$201,237,554.33

188,425,646.07 Pensions, army and navy PROVIDENCE, B. L. Dec. 31.

The Mental Arithmetic of Patrick's Sad Fall. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: If Patrick is now once and a third again as old as he was when he took to drink, and his son John, who was born five years before Pat started to drink, is now two years older than half as old as his mother was when Pat took to drink, how old are they all now if the sum of all their ages when John is the age that Pat was

Give the Damraddikles a Chance.

when he took to drink is 150?

From the Nashrille American opportunities for free and frank criticism of party errors or weaknesses and honest, courage future. But the blind, bull-headed, unthinking, intelerant Democrat who keeps his eys shut and his mouth open denounces such discussion as high

treason and those who engage in it as damrad-

OUTPUT OF GOLD AND SILVER.

Large Decrease in Production of Gold and Slight Increase in Silver.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.- The Director of the Mint issued to-day his preliminary estimate of the production of precious metals in the United States in 1908. There was a large decrease in the gold output, but a slight increase in silver.

The total gold production is estimated at \$74,425,340, as against \$80,000,000 in 1902 The most marked decrease was in Colorado. the largest gold producing State, where the total value was only \$22,000,000, as against \$28,468,700 in 1902. The falling off is attributed to the miners' strikes. There was a decrease in the California output, the total for 1903 being placed at \$16,585,525, as against \$16,792,100 in the year before. Alaska's gold product amounted to only \$6,921,157, as against \$8,345,800 in 1902, the decrease being due, probably, to the unusually short open season in the northern part of the territory. The largest gain was in Utah, where the output was \$5,061,599, as against \$3,594,500

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The commercial value of the silver produced in the United States last year is estimated at \$30,520,688, as against \$29,415,000 in 1902. The largest silver-producing State was Utah, with an output of \$8,100,000. Utah's product in 1902 was \$5,740,801. The was Utah, with an output of \$8,100,000. Utah's product in 1902 was \$5,740,801. The second State in the list is Colorado, with an output of \$7.517.812.

FIRE PROTECTION IN THEATRES.

Noiseless Extinguisher and No Rear Exite Advocated by a Physician.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The coorrecence of the disastrous Chicago theatre fire impels rence of the disastrous Chicago theatre fire impels me to ask why fire extinguishing bombs are permitted to be used in case of fire on a theatre stage? The noise of the little explosion is sure to produce panic in an audience untrained to meet emergencies. Why did not some one with a modicum of engineering skill compute that the rush of air from the open exits at a critical time would produce belighing of the absence cuttain and thus proves the open exits at a critical time would produce bellying of the asbestos curtain and thus prevent its rapid lowering? Why are not the seats of all theatres arranged in sections, to be cut of from one another on emergency, so that the whole audience cannot rush for escape by one way only Carrents of humanity in numbers just enough to pass through each exit would thus be provided

An audience of doctors would have escaped from the Iroquois, for doctors are trained to meet emer-gencies and do not lose their heads in crises. System in handling audiences is sadly needed in all pub

NEW YORK, Jan. 1,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: This Chicago horror brings up again, and sharply, the contrast between the poor, sickly, maudin sentimentality of so-called civilized races and, for instance, the doors to exits were locked."

If your statement be right, furnish names and addresses. In olden times the forgetful, careless, "didn't know it was loaded" murderer fied for his life to the "cities of refuge." It was his be EAST OBANGE. EAST ORANGE, Dec. 81.

To the Editor of The SUN-Sir: I would suggest, in view of the Chicago horror, that the asbestos fire curtain be lowered and raised in view of the audience before the beginning of the first act of every performance at every theatre or public hall where performances are given in this city, and that the Legislature be urged to enact such a le NEW YORK, Jan. 1.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: There is a simple device in use upon every rallway in this country which could be adopted for use in theatres and public halls in such a way as to preclude the possibility of locked doors and non-falling fire-proof curtains in times of emergency. This is the air brake, operated from a central station and controlled by levers in various parts of each car in every train. By a few simple changes in this mechanism it could be arranged so that a compressing or ex-hausting engine in the machine room of the theatre would not only unlock but force open every door in the auditorium of any theatre. At the same time the pneumatic power could force the asbestos curtain down-not merely release it for a fall, but actu ally force it to the stage floor; and while this was being done another division of the mechanism could turn up every exit light and any number of emergency lanterns that might be provided.

Such a machine could be controlled by buttons

or cords in the auditorium, one at every seat, o one at every row of seats. Any spectator could. by pressing a button or by pulling a cord, at one and turn on every light in the house, regardless of and its terrible consequences would be averted the darkness of a theatre auditorium in time of

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: At a prominen theatre last night I saw, for the first time in a long experience of theatre going, a uniformed officer of the Fire Department making his way to the stage the first floor. OLD-TIMES.

It was an encouraging sign. NEW YORK, Jan. 2.

Liquor Salcons and the Reman Catholic Church.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Since reading few weeks ago of the good work of the Paulists in getting so many men to sign the pledge, I ha e taken the trouble to note down the names of all the proprietors of saloons in New York and have found at least seven-eighths of them have the good old their families attend church on Sunday and the majority send their children to the convents to be educated.

Would it not be a good thing for the Paulists to get at the root of the evil—debar all liquor sellers or dive keepers from their Church? Then they NEW YORK, Dec. 21.

We referred the above letter to a Roman Catholic priest whose knowledge of the subject treated in it is peculiarly wide and accurate, and he makes this reply: TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir. "I have taken

the trouble," says your correspondent, "to note down the names of all the proprietors of saloons in New York." Now, there are some 8,000 of them. To find out how many of these are Catholics whose families attend church on Sunday and whose children are sent to convents would be well nigh im-possible. The truth is, in the year 1903, according to my best judgment, not 20 per cent. of the saloon keepers in New York are Catholics.

1. The requirements of the Baltimore Council of 1885 have had a strong influence (a) in forcing

some out of the business, (b) in preventing others from going into the business, so that twenty years of constant pressure has reduced the percentage to 2. From ten to fifteen years ago the brewers

3. The names over the doors are no indication

of the proprietors. Names remain when original proprietors sell out. A certain saloon has had eight owners in ten years, yet the name of the original owner, an Irishman, has been over the door right along.

4. The question of saloon keeping and races is an exceedingly curious question. There is a cerain stage in the evolution of a race, from the first period as immigrants to the last period as the high est type of citizenship, when they keep saloons Saloon keeping is an integral part of a political system founded on manhood suffrage. One thousand hardy immigrants arrive in New York. Within a short time the valuable franchise of voting is bestowed on them. They all start out in a race for political preferment and prominence. The easy saloon gives a man opportunities. He has votes to deliver, &c. As the immigrants become more and more thoroughly Americanized they give up the saloon business for other things more respectable. The Irish have largely gone through this stage, but the Italians are entering it.

5. Finally, while "kind Mother Church" depre-

cates the fact that any of her children are in the saloon business, she advises, exhorts and entreats, but she does not excommunicate. She does not shut out the sinner, but labors for his conversion.

New YORK, Dec. 29. A CATHOLIC PRIME.

No Heaven-bent Mob For Him.

day the preacher at the end of his address cried "Now all you good people who mean to go to heaven with me, stand up!" With a surge of enthusiasm, the audience sprang to their feet-all but an old horrified evangelist wrung his hands and, address him, said: "My good man, my good man, don't you want to go to heaven?" Clear and deliberate came the answer: "Aye, Awm gangin, but no wi' a pairsonally conducted pairty!